(v) The security arrangements discussed and reviewed in the monthly security meeting at all airports.

Exploration of CBM in Damodar River Valley

†*400. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal bed methane has been explored in the Demodar River Valley, from Jharkhand upto the city of Asonsol of Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there will be increase in the availability of CNG in the country after this exploration; and

(d) if so, the additional quantum of CNG estimated to be available and since when commercial production of CNG is likely to commence in this sector.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) So far, the Government has awarded 8 CBM blocks measuring an area of 1917 Sq. Km. in the Damodar River Valley under two rounds of CBM bidding out of which one block was awarded on a nomination basis. Out of these, 3 blocks are in West Bengal and 5 in Jharkhand. CBM exploration activities in six blocks are in progress. PEL is still awaited for two blocks awarded in Jharkhand. Detailed status is given in the Statement enclosed (*see* below).

(c) CBM largely consists of methane which is the major constituent of natural gas. Compression of such gas for supply as CNG would depend upon the quantum of natural gas available as well as the marketing strategies of the contractor. Under the CBM contracts, contractor have the freedom to market the gas in India.

(d) Commercial production of CBM is likely to start in the year 2007 in one of the 6 blocks where exploration activities are in progress. Peak production of CBM from these blocks is estimated at about 12 MMSCMD.

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Exploration of CBM in Damodar River Valley.

PROGRESS OF WORK IN AWARED CBM BLOCKS

Sl. No.	Block Name/Block Nomenclature	State Area in (sq. km.)	Awardee/ Consortium	Contract sign on	Phase duration (Phase-I)	Work Status as on 1.10.2005
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. CBM Blocks Awarded Under 1st Round of Bidding (CBM-I)						
1.	Bokaro (BK-CBM-2001/1)	Jharkhand 95	ONGC-IOC	26.7.2002	21.02.2003 to 20.08.2005	• Completed drilling and geophysical logging of 8 coreholes • CBM related studies on coal cores completed. • Drilling & Hydrofracturing of first Test Well is completed. • Hydrofracturing of 2nd Test Well is in progresss.
2.	North Karanpura (NK-CBM-2001/1)	Jharkhand 340	ONGC-IOC	-do-	21.02.2003 to 20.08.2002	• Completed drilling and geophysical logging of 8 coreholes. • CBM related studies on coal cores completed. • Test Well drilling likely to start soon.
3.	Raniganj East (RG(East)-CBM-2001/1)	W. Bengal 500	EOL	-do-	29.03.2005 to to 28.03.2007	• Preparatory activity for taking up of Corehole is in progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Raniganj North	W. Bengal 350	ONGC-CIL	06.02.03	09.06.2004 to 08.06.2007	• Preparatory activity for taking up of Corehole in progress.
5.	Jharia	Jharkhand 85	ONGC-CIL	06.02.03	28.08.2003 to 27.08.2006	• Corehole drilling started in Janaury, 2005. • Drilling of 4 core holes completed. Drilling of 2 Core holes as in progress.
6.	Raniganj South (The block was earlier awarded through FIPB route)	W. Bengal 210	GEECL	31.05.01	09.11.2001 to 08.11.06	• Phase-I work programme completed. • Phase-IIA Pilot Assessment Phase-IIA. • Drilling and hydrofracturing of 3 Pilot wells completed. • Deep watering is in progress for assessment of CBM potentiality in all the 3 pilot wells. • Flow of Gas @ 2000 m3/day from well # SN-2.
7.	South Karanpura (SK-CBM-2003/II)	Jharkhand 70	ONGC	06.02.04	—	• PEL awaited.
8.	North Karanpura (NK (West)-CBM-2003/II)	Jharkhand 267	ONGC	06.02.04	—	• PEL awaited.